AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6, 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9, 10A, 10B, 11A, 11B, 12A, 12B, 13 and 14. These sheets, which include Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6, 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9, 10A, 10B, 11A, 11B, 12A, 12B, 13 and 14, replace the original sheets including Figs. 1A, 1B, 2A, 2B, 3A, 3B, 4A, 4B, 4C, 5A, 5B, 6, 7A, 7B, 8A, 8B, 9, 10A, 10B, 11A, 11B, 12A, 12B, 13 and 14.

Attached: Replacement Sheets

SUPPORT FOR THE AMENDMENT

This Amendment amends the specification; cancels Claims 3, 18-19 and 25-32; amends Claims 1-2, 4-8, 11-17 and 20-24; and provides replacement sheets for the drawings. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, claims and drawings as originally filed. In particular, support for Claim 1 is found in canceled in Claim 18 and in the specification at least at page 27, lines 36-39. No new matter would be introduced by entry of these amendment.

Upon entry of these amendments, Claims 1-2, 4-17 and 20-24 will be pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Applicants respectfully request entry of the foregoing and reexamination and reconsideration of the application, as amended, in light of the remarks that follow.

The present invention provides a process for mask-free localized grafting of organic molecules. According to the present invention, it is paramount for the polymer (and more generally the grafted organic coating) resulting from the electrografting reaction to be an insulator. Specification at page 27, lines 36-39.

Claims 1-3, 7-8, 12, 14-15 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,766,934 ("Guiseppi-Elie"). Guiseppi-Elie discloses chemical and biological sensors employing a thin ***electrically conducting*** polymer film that is specifically attached via a covalent bond formation to the interdigitated microsensor electrode component of the devices. Guiseppi-Elie at Abstract, lines 12-16. However, Guiseppi-Elie fails to suggest the independent Claim 1 limitation of "electrochemically grafting an ***insulating*** film of said organic molecules on chosen, defined areas of said conductive and/or semiconductive portions". Thus, the rejection over Guiseppi-Elie should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-3, 7, 14-16, 19-21 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over *Journal of Electroanalytical Chemistry*, 465: 200-208 (1999) ("Charlier"). However, Claim 18 is not rejected over Charlier. Claim 18 is canceled and incorporated into independent Claim 1. Thus, the rejection over Charlier should be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to. To obviate the objection, replacement drawings are provided.

The disclosure is objected to. To obviate the objection, the specification at page 22 is amended to explicitly label scheme 2.

Claims 5-6, 11 and 24 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c). To obviate the objection, the claims are amended to remove multiple dependencies.

Claim 3 is objected to. Claim 3 is canceled, so the objection is moot and should be withdrawn.

Claims 1-4, 7-10 and 12-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph. To obviate the rejection, the claims are amended.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Applicants respectfully request favorable consideration and prompt allowance of the application.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary in order to place the application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.
Norman F. Oblon

Corwin Paul Umbach

Corwin P. Umbach, Ph.D.
Registration No. 40,211

Attached: Replacement Sheets for Drawings

Customer Number
22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 03/06)